

***Handbook 2019 - 2020***

We have many activities and performances scheduled for this year and what a year it will be. A few words some it up very well;

**Exceptional; Fantastic; Superb!!!!**

**Character; Camaraderie; Cooperation!!!**

**Pride; Confidence; Determination!!!!**

**Attitude!!!!**

This handbook has been written to help you answer questions you might have about the music department, the band/ choir and it’s policies, goals, objectives, and direction.

**History of Livingston Academy Music Program**

**It Is up to you to determine what our history will be.**

**Only you can be the person to determine our worth and ability.**

**Each and everyone of you are important to our success.**

**So Let Us Band Together**



Livingston Academy Band

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**2019 - 2020 Band Handbook**

Welcome to the Livingston Academy Band Program! Please read the following material carefully as it is your responsibility for knowing this information. At the end of this handbook there are places for you and your parents to sign and return saying that you have read all the rules contained in this handbook.

**Philosophy:** It is the philosophy of this program to engage all students in a thoughtful rewarding experience both educationally and aesthetically through the use of music, artistry, and showmanship. Band is a unique offering at Livingston Academy. There are curricular requirements, just as any other academic discipline, as well as co and extra curricular requirements similar to those of the athletic teams. The strength of the band program is the consolidation of these requirements into one, performance oriented, academic course of study. This course of study is graded and requires attendance and participation to be successful.

**Goals:** Each student should show growth and understanding of music, artistic sensitivity, solo, small and large ensemble performance skills, along with music history and theory. Students will also represent this school and program with the attitude, dedication, and maturity that it deserves. Responsibility, dedication, and perseverance are also traits and goals the students will learn.

**Purpose:** It is the purpose of this program to serve as the musical outlet for the school and/or community as well as any other venue necessary. The purpose will also be to perform a variety of quality literature and for the student to attain leadership skills along the way.

**Activities:** Students in this program will participate in rehearsals (during and after school), class work, concerts, festivals, community and school performances, co and extra curricular activities, field trips, and all other events deemed necessary by the band director.

**Course Requirements:** You will **commit** to attending **ALL** rehearsals and performances for the school year as well as any other events deemed necessary by the band director. Band is a **yearlong class** (split into two semesters) and should be thought of as such. Extra practice (individual and group) will be required as needed. The students will also be required to act and dress according to the high standards that the band represents. Dedication, responsibility, perseverance, and discipline are also traits that the students will be required to demonstrate as well as pursue.

**Band Fees:** Band Fees are established in order to help the Band Program to advance and meet it’s needs and obligations through out the year. Please see attached fee schedule.

The band fees are set in lieu of the funding we receive from the school system. We receive $1000 per year. **We do not fall under the fee waiver program**.

**Evaluation (Grading Policy):**

1. **Grading Scale:** (As set by school board)

**Percentage Grade Letter Grade Rating Grade**

93-100 A Superior

85-92 B Excellent

75-84 C Good

70-74 D Average

69 and below F Below Average

1. **Attendance**. Regular school class attendance rules apply during the school day. For after school rehearsals, performances, and other events, attendance is mandatory and students’ grades will be affected if missed. The band director must approve any absences in advance. The only acceptable excuses are those that have been approved by the Band Director or a severe hospitalization illness of a student/family member or death in the family.
   1. **Be On Time:** Arrive early enough to be in your seat with your instrument and music before the rehearsal begins. Remember**…”EARLY IS ON TIME. ON TIME IS LATE!”**
2. **Participation: 10 points per day**. All students are to work together in a cooperative environment along with the director. Leaving rehearsals is not allowed until the director dismisses you.
   1. **Talking:** Disrupting rehearsals or a performance is unacceptable. Daily points will be deducted for this; other measures will be imposed if you can’t follow this rule.
3. **After School Rehearsals: 10 points per rehearsal -**

**Participation. (Required)** Rehearsals are on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and occasionally on a Friday when we don’t have a game performance. They run from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

* 1. A missed rehearsal **can** result in not being able to perform at a football game;
  2. Two missed in a row **can** result in not being able to perform at a contest or festival. The Band Member is **still** *required to be present in Uniform and on the sideline*.
  3. Three or more absences **can/will** result in possible release from the Band program.

*All absences that have a doctor’s excuse presented may be exempted from this policy statement* *and communication with the director.*

1. **Performances:** Football or Basketball Performances will count as 100 points. Equivalent to a major test grade.
2. **Other Events:** All other events (Marching Band Festivals and contests) will count as 100 points. Equivalent to a major test grade.
3. **Tests:** (Other than performances) will count as 100 points.
4. **Makeup Work:** All work missed as the result of an absence must be made up within 3 days of the student’s return to class. All responsibility for arranging make-up work lies solely with the student, *not the Director*. Making up rehearsal time is very difficult since reproducing the time and effort is very difficult.
5. **Extra Credit:** Extra credit may be added to the student’s grade for any of the following.
   1. **Attending Concerts:** Attend any concert outside the school day and bring a signed program back to the band director. This applies to Collegiate or professional bands or orchestras. Not bands or pop groups.
   2. **Solo and Ensemble Festival:** Attend and participate in Solo and Ensemble.
   3. **Regional Honor Bands:** Try-out for and attend regional honor bands.

**General Rules:** As with any program we have to require rules. These rules will be the extension of the normal school rules. Both sets (school rules and band rules) apply to all students in the band program.

* + 1. All policies of the Livingston Academy Student Handbook will be followed. This includes the use or drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Law enforcement will be called in to deal with these types of situations.
    2. **Cell phones are restricted in the classroom, rehearsals or performances**. They may be used on trips as a means of communication with parents.
    3. All students are to be in their assigned seat or position and ready to start class (with instrument, music, etc..) when the two-minute warning music stops or when called to attention.
    4. Act and speak respectfully. If you can’t say anything nice or positive keep it to yourself. No student should disrespect any other student, regardless of rank or classification.
    5. Help to keep the Band Room clean and orderly. The Band Room is not a locker or locker room. Items left on the floor will be thrown away.
    6. You are encouraged to maintain at least a 2.5 (C) grade average in all classes. This keeps you eligible to participate.
    7. Students are to be seated at all times on the bus. Students will also sit with a member of the same sex only. No couples are allowed to sit together. Blankets or coverings will be allowed on bus trips but under restrictions.
    8. Theft or vandalism of any school or personal property will be turned immediately over to school authorities (SRO) or the local law enforcement.
    9. Students are not permitted in private rooms with members of the opposite gender when on overnight trips.
    10. Students are to ride to and from all band related trips/functions with the Band Director. Parents may request that their child ride home with them if written permission is given (new form letter) to the Band Director in advance.

**Performance:**

**Football/Basketball Games:**

* For home games students must be ready for inspection at 6:00 pm. Call Time is 5:00 pm
* Students are expected to be in full uniform at all times.( Unless otherwise directed by the Director)
* Students are **NOT** to bring or have food or drinks in the stands. Water is the only exception. Parents please help us with this.
* Students are expected to be respectful to fans, parents, football players and cheerleaders.
* Students are expected to be ready to play when a song is called up.
* Students are to stay in their own section during the game.
* **Non-band students are not allowed to sit in the band section, that includes the steps while we are there or next to the rope (no distractions).**
* Students are not to switch instruments during the game. (Percussion only exceptions.)
* Officers will meet and greet the visiting bands officers during 3rd quarter.
* ANY VIOLATION OF THESE EXPECTATIONS, YOU AND/OR THE BAND WILL FORFIET 3RD QUARTER BREAK, THAT GAME or the NEXT.

**Competitions/ Contests:**

* Students are expected to be on time for any morning warm-ups before a contest.
* Officers are the only members to accept awards and trophies at contests.
* Officers should be back in uniform for the awards by the time the last competing band begins their performance.

**Concerts:**

* All students are expected to be ready for warm-ups at 6:00 pm ( or designated time).
* All students are expected to wear the proper attire or uniform for all concerts.
* All students are expected to help clean and clear the auditorium/gym after the concert.

**Graduation:**

* Graduation counts as one of the two final concerts for the 4th quarter term. There are no exemptions for missing this performance.
* Students are expected to wear the designated attire or uniform for graduation.

**Memorial Day Program**

* It is hoped that all students will participate in this community event and support our veterans for their enduring service.

**Band Uniforms**

* Uniforms are to be treated with the highest respect. They should never be on the ground and should be hung up properly when not being worn. **When in uniform, students should always have their coat on and zipped unless otherwise directed by the Band Director.**

**Disciplinary Actions:**

1. **First Time:** A conference with the Director and an agreed upon solution to the problem which will resolve the situation. A note may be placed in the student file outlining the discussion and decision.
2. **Second Time:** Reprimand from and conference with the Band Director. A form outlining the offense will be sent home to the parents. This form must be signed and returned to the Band Director to be put on file.
3. **Third Time:** A conference with the Band Director and parents will be scheduled. A second form outlining the offense will be placed on file. The student will also not be allowed to participate in the next performance or event until the parent conference has been completed, *this may be extended*. School administration will also be notified.
4. **Fourth Time:** Conference with the Band Director, Parents, and School Administration. Student will be suspended from band and not allowed to perform with the performing ensemble. An alternative curriculum will be established so student can complete the requirements for the semester without failing. A form outlining the offense will be placed on file and student may be dismissed from the Band Program temporarily to indefinitely at the end of the semester if behavior isn’t modified.

**Bullying, Harassing and Favoritism Policy**

1. There will be absolutely no bullying or harassing allowed in the band program. Students that are found bullying other students will be removed immediately from any ranks they might hold and be dealt with on Step 4 of the "Disciplinary Actions" clause.
2. Favoritism is also not tolerated in the Band Program. Students must audition for any ranks or positions they earn. These positions will not be guaranteed and if necessary changes will be made.

**Band Officers: Selection and Responsibilities**

1. **Band Officers:** All Officers will be decided on by the Band Director and/or based on their interview and auditions. They must be on time, support other officers and the Band Director in and out of rehearsal, bring student concerns to the Band Director, accept awards on behalf of the band at awards ceremonies, and be good leaders/examples for the other students to follow. These positions are **NOT** of a disciplinary nature. They are of a supportive and teaching nature and should be handled as such or risk being removed from such positions.
2. **Drum Major/Field Commander:** Conduct/lead the Band, help the Band Director in preparing for and conducting rehearsals, conduct inspections, and support the other officers. The DM/FC is also responsible for knowing everyone else's part/music/drill. Must be attentive to the request of the Director and must conduct as the Director requests.
3. **Band Captain:** Help the Band Director when needed, act as primary student representative for the band, and be prepared to conduct/lead the band whenever necessary. The Band Captain should know everything the DM/FC does in case something should happen to or removal of the Drum Major/Field Commander should become necessary.
4. **Lieutenants:** **Woodwind, Brass, Logistics;** Help the Band Director when needed, monitor all loading and unloading of equipment including instruments and uniforms. This includes equipment needs for trips, performances and rehearsals.
5. **Lieutenants - Guard/Percussion:** Help all guard and percussion members stay organized and out of trouble, lead their section in warm-ups for practice and performances, make sure their sections instruments are properly stored and maintained, keep storage areas clean and maintained, and make sure all necessary equipment is loaded and unloaded on all trips.
6. **Sergeants and Corporals/Section Leaders:** These students are responsible for their own sections. They should ensure their members know their music, drill, follow rules, and act according to the standards set forth within the Band and this handbook. Section Leaders are the **PRIMARY** source for band members to receive feedback, music, equipment, or to ask questions that they may have.
7. **Librarian:** Will take care of filing and cataloguing music. Help in keeping the Library neat and orderly, distribute and collect music, keep account for lost or damaged music, and help manage student portfolios.

**Livingston Academy HS “Spirit of the Wildcats” Band**

Has received numerous awards for their performances each year in both Marching and Concert band settings.

Each year the band is basically new as some graduate and new up-coming freshmen join the band program meaning we have to reset to the new mix of students.

At the 2015 Trousdale County HS Yellow Jacket Invitational the band was recognized as the band who is “up and coming “. In 2016 the Band took first place in their Class.

The band program has been around for many years; I have been the director for over 20 years.

The band is very active and performs about 50 plus times per year for school and community events as well as contest and festivals.

Saturdays in September, October and sometimes in November is a big part of what the band does every year.

To operate at the level we do, we have to fundraise multiple times a year and this includes The home-side concessions stand at home football games.

The Livingston Academy HS Band is not just a marching/pep band they are also a concert band. This year the band did a superior job and has an invitation to the State Concert Festival. Students also participated in the Solo & Ensemble Festival April 1st and all received superior ratings.

The band averages in size including band and color guard at about 45 members per year. The bands students range in age from 13/14 to 18/19 years old, Freshmen to Seniors.

The band is made up of the instrument groups: Winds – Brass and Woodwinds, Percussion – Battery and Keyboard/Auxiliary, Color Guard (Flags).

The Bands Nickname is The “Spirit of the Wildcats”

LA Band

2018-2019 Color Guard

**What is color guard?**

Color Guard is an athletic activity that requires hand and eye coordination, stamina, and dedication. The color guard performs alongside the marching band providing a visual production to the Band’s marching show. It is a VERY active activity that requires everyone who participates to run, exercise, and push their personal fitness limits. Push-ups, running, and other exercises will be used for conditioning and strength building. One of the most interesting parts about watching a marching band is the color guard! The color guard has the unique responsibility to interpret the music through visual effects. Due to the relationship between color guard and military drills, you have to practice to become a member. In color guard we emphasize training in the student’s ability to spin, dance, and perform. It is very much a group activity, so learning to perform, as a team is the ultimate goal!

**What is required of a color guard member?**

Color guard members are required to be at all rehearsals the band holds, and may be required to do extra rehearsals during competition season! Members are also required to attend all games and competitions with the band. Members will be **required** to be at all camps during the summer.

A Band fee is necessary as a part of what we do; band is not a fee waivered program.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Dingwall at 931-823-5911 x292.

We really hope to see anyone that is interested!!!

**Student Responsibilities for Trips:**

1. Each student should make sure their own uniform and all its parts are complete and ready to use. (The Band and Boosters will clean the uniforms a couple of times per year)
2. Each student should maintain and take of their own instrument, music, lyre, mouthpieces, reeds, etc...
3. Each student should help load and unload the equipment under the guidance of their Lieutenants.
4. When we arrive home students should clean up the bus and make sure that it is left cleaner than when we got on it. Uniforms should be hung up properly in the Uniform Room and Instruments stored in their proper places.

**Uniform and Concert Attire:**

1. **Instrumental Members:**
   1. Band Furnishes – Uniform, Shako, and some Accessories
   2. Student Furnishes – Band Polo Shirt (Bought through Band Fees), Band Hat (Bought through Band Fees), Band T-Shirt (Bought through Band Fees), Black Marching Shoes (Bought through Band Fees)**,** Black Socks, and Black Gloves (Bought through Band Fees).
   3. What Not To Wear – **No** *makeup or jewelry*, (this includes nose rings, earrings, ear bars, any lip or facial piercings, any other type of piercings) hair must be up and under shako. If a piercing is worn and cannot be removed a bandaid of some type will be worn over said piercing.
2. **Colorguard:**
   1. Band Furnishes – Tunic (Top), some Accessories, Flags, Other Equipment
   2. Student Furnishes – Black Pants, Black Guard Shoes and Gloves (Bought through Band Fees), Practice Pole, Practice Flag, counter weight(s), black electrical tape – will need between 2 – 4 rolls bought through Band Director – approx. $45.
3. Reminder – Makeup will be used to accent eyes and cheeks and will be worn as per Color Guard Instructor’s direction. **No** *jewelry* allowed (this includes nose rings, earrings, ear bars, any lip or Facial piercings, any other type of piercings). If a piercing is worn and cannot be removed a band-aid of some type will be worn over said piercing.



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120 Melvin Johnson Dr.

Livingston, TN 38570

**Band Fees:** Band Fees are established in order to help the Band Program to advance and meet the

needs and obligations through out the year. Band fees this year are **$130** per member (winds,

percussion & guard). This fee includes band camp, band hat, band show shirt and show patch.

The fee structure is explained below:

**Band Members (ALL) Color Guard has additional expenses – nominal:**

**$90 -** summer camp staff **$35 -** Black guard pants

**$20** - Band Show Shirt **$40–** Practice flag, pole and

**$15 -** Band Ball Cap accessories (if they don’t already have)

**$5 -** Band Patch **$75**

**$130**

There is a **$40** Uniform Dry-Cleaning fee assessed for each band uniform (winds and percussion only), this allows us 4 – 5 cleanings as necessary per year. Band Uniforms are left here hung up and ready for next use. Uniforms should never go home with the students.

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**Additional fees (if needed Band and Guard)**

**$35 -** Marching Band shoes (Band & Guard)

**$25 -** Band Polo Shirt (If you don’t have one)

**$4 –** Band Gloves

**$3 -** Black Band Socks

Up to **$67 per New members and Freshmen**

**$15 –** Band Short Sleeve Show Shirt (Optional)

**$81**

The band fees are set due to the limited funding we receive from the school system. We are not fee waivered. There may be scholarships available to those who qualify, sponsored by the Band Alumni. Payments may be made early or ahead of time. Here is a tentative schedule to consider. All Fees need to be paid in full by 1st day of Band Camp. Based on $130/ $197/ CG $75/Winds & Percussion $40

**Starting Date as of: Band / Band add’l / CG add’l / Cleaning**

**May 2019** - $43.34 x 3 payments/ $65.67 x 3 payments/ CG $25 x 3 payments/ $13.34 x 3

**June 2019** - $65 x 2 payments. / $98.50 x 2 payments/ CG $37.50 x 2 payments/ $20 x 2

**July 2018** - $130 x 1 payment/ $197 x 1 payment/ CG $75 x 1 payment/ $40 x 1

Make checks payable to the LA Band

**Livingston Academy Band**

Membership Agreement/ Band Contract

This form is a statement that indicates:

1. You have read the Livingston Academy Band Handbook/Contract
2. You understand it and abide by its concepts
3. That you agree to participate in the band program for the duration of the 2019-2020 school year, including all events planned by the Band Director.
4. Pay the Fee, See schedule included. Color Guard has additional fees up to $75. Payment of fees, insure that you have a spot in our show. The fee is unfortunately, not covered by the fee waiver program. Everyone is responsible for payment of this fee.

The fee will also help us ensure that students and their parents understand and are committed to maintaining the band program and continue helping us to move forward. Once the students are enrolled a “spot” is written for them in the upcoming year's Half-Time Show. **Please make checks payable to “LA Band.”**

1. By signing below, I, my parent/guardian(s) agree that I will participate in the band program for the **duration** of the 2019-2020 School Year. This will include Marching Band and Concert Band Seasons as well as all other events that the Band Director deems necessary. Furthermore, I agree that I will follow all School Rules, Band Rules, and any other rules that the Band Director outlines.

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(Print Student Name) (Student Signature)

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(Print Parent Name) (Parent Signature)

**Make all checks payable to "LA Band Boosters" Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*This form must be turned in to the Band Director ASAP where it will be kept on file*.